

Staying Pure
John 7:53-8:11

"Do not have sexual relations with your neighbor's wife and defile or contaminate yourself with her."
Leviticus 18:20

"You shall not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14

Five helps to remain faithful:

1. Make a commitment to God's standard.

"How can a man keep his way pure? By living according to your word" Psalm 119:9

"Be faithful to your own wife and give your love to her alone." Proverbs 5:15

Suggestions:

Share with your spouse your commitment to God's standard for marriage.

Share with your friends your commitment to God's standard for marriage.

2. Magnify the consequences of an affair.

"The one who commits adultery is an utter fool, for he destroys his own soul." Proverbs 6:32

"Adultery will cost a man all he has." Proverbs 6:26

"God will judge those who are immoral and those who commit adultery." Hebrews 13:4

3. Maintain your marriage.

"A man should fulfill his duty as a husband, and a wife should fulfill her duty as a wife, and each should satisfy the other's needs." 1 Corinthians 7:3

Top five needs of most men:

1. Sexual fulfillment
2. Recreational companionship
3. Attractive spouse
4. Domestic support
5. Admiration

Top five needs of most women:

1. Affection
2. Conversation
3. Honesty and openness
4. Financial support

5. Family commitment

4. Manage your mind.

How affairs develop:

1. Accepting sinful thoughts in the mind

"Temptation is the pull of a person's own evil thoughts and wishes. These evil thoughts lead to evil actions and afterwards to death." James 1:14, 15

"Turn your back on lustful desires and give your positive attention to goodness, integrity, love and peace." 2 Timothy 2:22

2. Emotional (not physical) involvement.

3. Physical involvement.

4. Rationalization of the affair

"The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked." Jeremiah 17:9

5. Minimize the opportunity.

The pattern downward is as follows:

Familiarity

Feelings

Frequency

Failure

"So be careful if you're thinking, 'Oh, I would never behave like that.' Let this be a warning to you, for you too may fall into sin." I Corinthians 10:12

How to protect yourself from affairs:

1. Seldom travel alone.
2. Contact your spouse every night.
3. Avoid being alone with someone of the opposite sex.
4. Talk positively about your spouse.
5. Be accountable to others.

6. Choose your friends carefully.
7. Look beyond the temptation to the consequences.

The pathway back to purity:

1. Acknowledge the sin. (Psalm 51:1-4)
2. End the relationship immediately.
3. Avoid ALL contact with the person from now on. Do whatever it takes to do this!

"Lord, I am a man. I want to be a real man, so those things in my life that are wrong, where I have made mistakes, committed my errors and sin, forgive me. I want them out of my life. Right now I ask you to come into my life by Your Spirit and change me. Make me to be the man you created me to be through Jesus Christ. Thank you, Lord. Amen."